

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 L-01 ACDA-10 MC-01 SP-02 EB-03
EUR-08 /060 W

----- 105570 /20

P 231125Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9176

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 2370

LIMDIS

AF FOR ASST SECY SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS PINT, PFOR, UNSC, BC, SF, RH, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTION ON RHODESIAN BORDER
INCURSIONS

REF: A. GABORONE 2364 B) GABORONE 2291

1. IN VIEW OF MIN EXTAFF'S POSITIVE REACTION TO PROPOSED USG
INITIATIVE (PARA 6 OF REF A) AS USEFUL FOLLOW-UP TO EARLIER GOB
APPROACH TO SAG, I HOPE DEPT WILL AUTHORIZE EARLY DEMARCHE TO
SAG.

2. AS IS EVIDENT FROM RECENT REPORTS OF GOB ACTIONS AND PRONOUNCE-
MENTS, A COMBINATION OF FACTORS SEEM TO BE COMING TOGETHER THAT
ARE HAVING THE EFFECT OF GRADUALLY RADICALIZING POLICIES OF THIS
MODERATE REGIME. PRESIDENT'S ENFORCED RECUPERATION MAY PARTLY AC-
COUNT FOR THIS. FOR WHATEVER REASONS, THE SOVIETS ACT AS THOUGH
THEY SEE AN OPENING. THEY HAVE OVERTLY MADE AN OFFER (THUS FAR
NON-SPECIFIC) OF MILITARY AID; THE GOB HAS PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY
CONFIRMED SUCH AN OFFER "WOULD BE CONSIDERED". A DIPLOMATIC INTER-
VENTION TO CURTAIL RHODESIAN VIOLATIONS OF BOTSWANA IS CLEARLY A LONG
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SHOT, BUT IT MAY BE THE LAST CHANCE TO KEEP GOB FROM SETTING
AN UNCHARTED, UNFORTUNATE AND COSTLY CORSE TOWARD ARMS BUILDUP.
IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE; BUT IT SEEMS TO ME WE OWE IT A
SERIOUS TRY.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS AS APPROPRIATE.

NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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